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Missouri's First Lady visits higher education

First Lady Lori Hauser Holden toured the offices and met the staff of the Missouri Department of Higher Education on March 18.

Accompanied by Nia Ray, her chief of staff, Mrs. Holden is visiting all state departments to learn about their programs and services and to thank state employees for their public service.

Deputy Commissioner John Wittstruck presented information about the core operations of the department. Cheryl Schroeder, public information officer, highlighted key features of the department's web site for Mrs. Holden. The First Lady spent the remainder of the visit chatting with staff about their job responsibilities.

Mrs. Holden places a high priority on being an "ambassador for the state." She advocates for a wide range of issues; but as the mother of two young sons, she is especially interested in educational



First Lady Lori Hauser Holden (left) meets Debra Cheshier, Director of Strategic Planning and Policy Development for MOSTARS.

issues. Mrs. Holden helped establish the Missouri chapter of First Book, a national, nonprofit organization that provides books to underprivileged children.

The staff was pleased to have the opportunity to show Mrs. Holden how the department's programs help students and their families plan and pay for college. 🍷

Higher education measures progress in “report card”

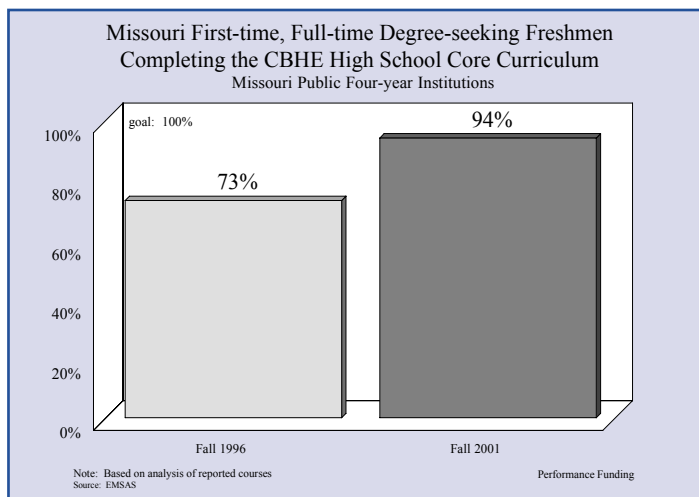
Much of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education’s April meeting, hosted by Columbia College, was devoted to various accountability reports on institutional and student performance.

During the “report card” meeting, the Coordinating Board received the annual report on progress toward the goals established in its plan for Missouri higher education. The 2002 progress report, *Striving for Excellence: A Report on Missouri’s System of Higher Education*, illustrates the strength of the state’s collective higher education system. It describes progress made in improving student preparation, participation rates and performance as well as indicators of institutional strength, quality and affordability.

Preparation

According to the report, the Coordinating Board’s focus on student preparation has made a difference. Students enrolling in the state’s colleges and universities today are better prepared than in the past.

In 1992, the Coordinating Board established a 16-unit high school core curriculum as a standard for admission to public four-year institutions. Between 1996 and 2001, the proportion of freshmen completing that core curriculum increased from 73 percent to 94 percent – up from 36 percent in 1992.

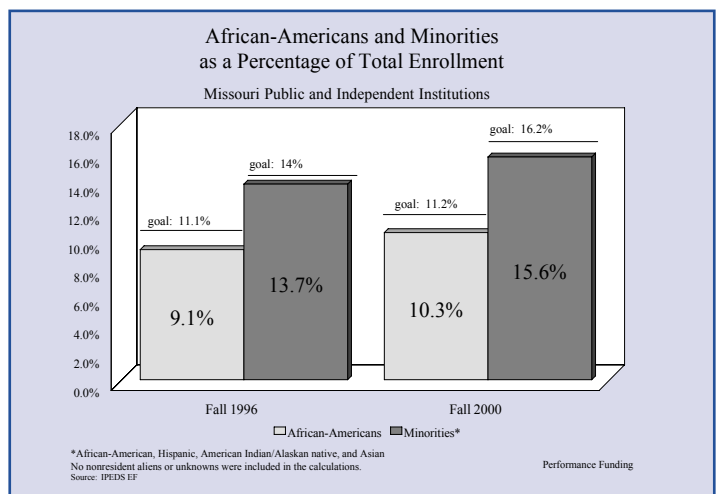


In addition, more Missouri high schools are offering Advanced Placement courses, which allow high-achieving

high school students to take college-level courses. While only 25 percent of Missouri high schools had students taking AP exams in 1996-97, this proportion increased to 34 percent by 2000-01. The Coordinating Board’s goal is to have Advanced Placement courses offered in every Missouri high school.

Participation

The state’s system of higher education is educating and graduating increasing numbers of students. Between 1996 and 2001, enrollment in the state’s system of higher education increased by nearly 30,000 students (11 percent), from 276,000 to 306,000. The college enrollment rate of African-Americans has increased from 9.1 percent in 1996 to 10.3 percent in 2000.



Six-year graduation rates for the public four-year institutions increased from 46 percent in 1996 to 56 percent in 2001, which is above the national average of 54 percent. The number and proportion of degrees conferred to African-Americans has increased as well, accounting for 9.3 percent of all degrees conferred in 2000-01 compared to 7.8 percent in 1996-97.

Performance

The progress report shows that student performance also has improved. The proportion of students scoring above the 50th percentile on nationally normed tests of general education and the major field of study has

See “REPORT CARD,” page 7

Report tracks college performance of Missouri high school graduates

Missouri schools have a tool for assessing how well their students are prepared for college.

The Missouri High School Graduates Performance Report, prepared annually by the Missouri Department of Higher Education for the State Board of Education, tracks the academic preparation and college enrollment and success of Missouri public high school graduates.

Enrollment

According to this year's report, 19,755 Missouri public high school graduates entered the state's public colleges and universities in the fall of 2000. Of these freshmen, 55 percent were women. Caucasian students accounted for 86 percent, African-Americans for 8.2 percent, Asian-Americans for 1.6 percent and Hispanics for 1.3 percent. Compared to the 1996 report, there was a 14 percent increase in African-American freshmen enrollment and an 8 percent increase for Caucasians.

Academic Preparation

In the fall of 2000, 71 percent of these first-time freshmen reported ACT scores. The group had an average ACT score of 22.6, which was above the state and national averages (21.5 and 21.0, respectively). In addition, 93 percent completed the high school core curriculum recommended by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education.


The proportion of Missouri public high school graduates entering the state's public colleges and universities and taking remedial courses has remained largely unchanged over the years. In the fall of 2000,

20 percent of these freshmen enrolled in remedial mathematics, 13 percent in remedial English and 6 percent in remedial reading. Together, over one-fourth of the first-time freshmen took one or more remedial courses in the fall of 2000. Of those who took remedial courses, 87 percent were attending community colleges or four-year institutions with open admissions policies.

Success in College

Ninety-six percent of the 2000 Missouri public high school graduates enrolled in the state's public colleges and universities completed the first semester (fall 2000), with a cumulative grade point average of 2.60. Eighty-five percent completed the second semester (spring 2001), with a cumulative grade point average of 2.71. Seventy-five percent enrolled the second year (fall 2001).

By the fall of 2001, 46 percent of the 1996 Missouri high school graduates who enrolled in the state's public four-year institutions had graduated, and approximately 10 percent were still pursuing baccalaureate degrees. Of those Missouri high school graduates who enrolled in the state's community colleges in the fall of 1996, approximately 27 percent had received associate degrees or certificates by the fall of 2001, and one-fifth transferred to the state's public four-year institutions.

The Missouri High School Graduates Performance Report is intended to promote discussions between postsecondary institutions and high schools about the alignment of the high schools' course offerings with the institutions' admission and graduation requirements. It is available online at www.cbhe.state.mo.us. 



**Special thanks to
President Gerald Brouder and everyone
at Columbia College for their gracious
hospitality as hosts of the April 11
Coordinating Board meeting.**



Photo courtesy of Columbia College

Institutions report mission enhancement results

Harris-Stowe State College, Lincoln University, Truman State University and the University of Missouri presented their results from the state's investment in their respective mission enhancement plans to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education during its April 11 meeting.

These four institutions developed mission enhancement plans in 1997 and began receiving implementation funding in FY 1999. In October 2001, the Coordinating Board recommended the fourth and final year of funding for their mission enhancement initiatives.

Harris-Stowe State College

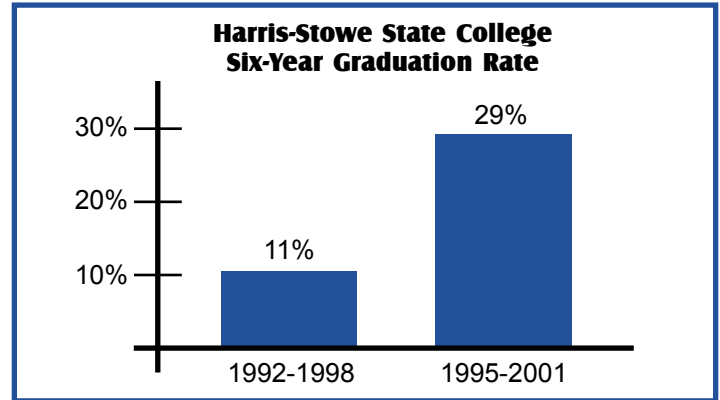
Through mission enhancement funding, Harris-Stowe State College expanded its educational offerings with new degree programs in accounting, hospitality and tourism management, information sciences and computer technology, and professional interdisciplinary studies.

New HSSC Degree Programs	
B.S. Program (year established)	Current Majors
Accounting (1999)	54
Hospitality/Tourism Management (2000)	1
Information Sciences/Computer Technology (2001)	107
Professional Interdisciplinary Studies (2000)	24

Among the new programs are two specially designed 2+2 programs, developed in collaboration with St. Louis Community College.

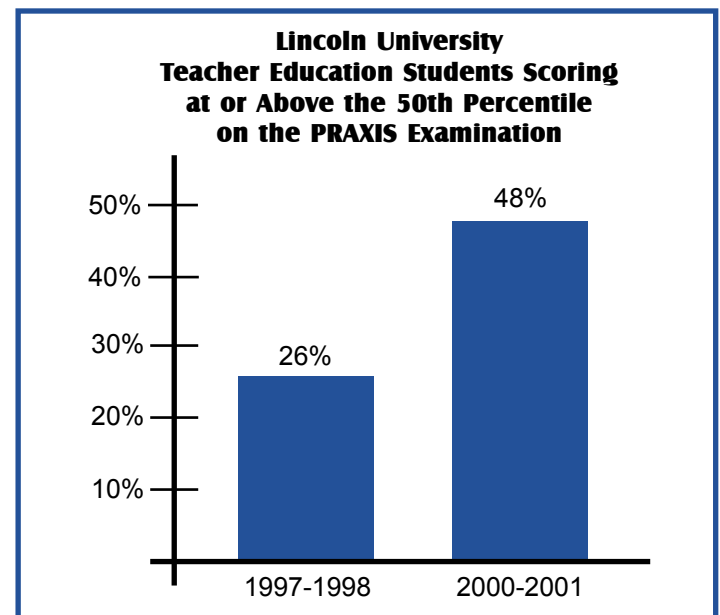
Harris-Stowe also enriched a number of its existing programs, including teacher education and business administration, with the addition of program options and certification opportunities. The business administration programs received accreditation from the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs and the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education.

In addition, Harris-Stowe continued its campus expansion efforts to accommodate the college's enhanced mission with the construction of the Physical Education and Visual/Performing Arts Center.



Lincoln University

While maintaining its commitment to its original mission as a land-grant institution, Lincoln University has built upon its historic mission to serve the needs of a broader population with diverse educational interests. As a result, Lincoln has progressed toward accreditation for its business administration program by hiring new faculty and improving faculty development activities. Through similar actions, the university also improved its elementary education, nursing science, and criminal justice and law enforcement programs.



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MISSION ENHANCEMENT RESULTS, from page 4

In addition, Lincoln University established the Student Success Program, which provides intrusive intervention for at-risk freshmen. Through this program, 94 students have been given the opportunity to pursue their education, and 52 students have been successful and are still completing their education.

Lincoln University Student Success Program		
	2000	2001
Students	46	94
Success Rate	55%	57%

Lincoln also developed collaborations throughout the state and with federal agencies to improve the educational opportunities available to students and extended the reach of its Cooperative Research and Extension program to address social and economic problems such as poverty, crime and drug abuse.

Truman State University

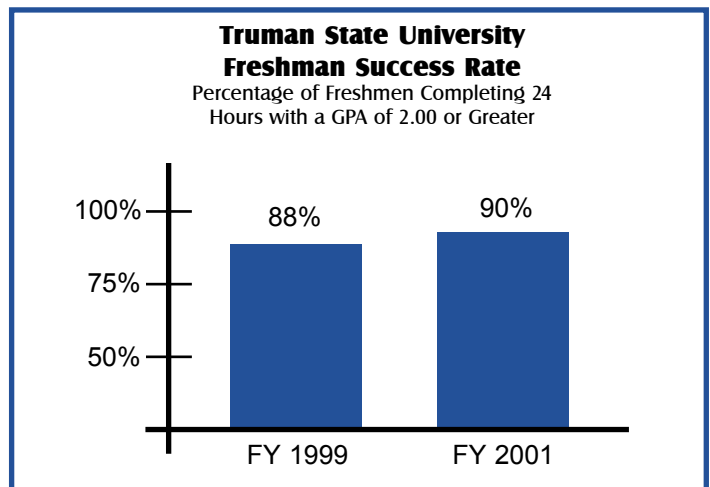
With mission enhancement funding, Truman State University has continued to progress toward its goal of becoming nationally recognized as a highly selective, public liberal arts university. Truman has focused its liberal arts mission by decreasing the number of undergraduate programs offered from 140 in 1985 to 43 in 2001. Truman also enhanced its students' liberal arts education by implementing the Liberal Studies Program, a challenging general education program required for graduation.

The university nearly doubled the size of its science facility, which will increase opportunities for modern instruction and collaborative research among students and faculty. Student participation in undergraduate research already has increased from 691 students in FY 1998 to 1,199 in FY 2001.

Truman State University Student Participation in Undergraduate Research	
FY 1998	FY 2001
691	1,199

In addition, mission enhancement funding enabled Truman to expand its library, increase its media and technology services and capabilities, and bring 12 scholars to campus for a series of lectures through the Distinguished Visiting Scholars Program.

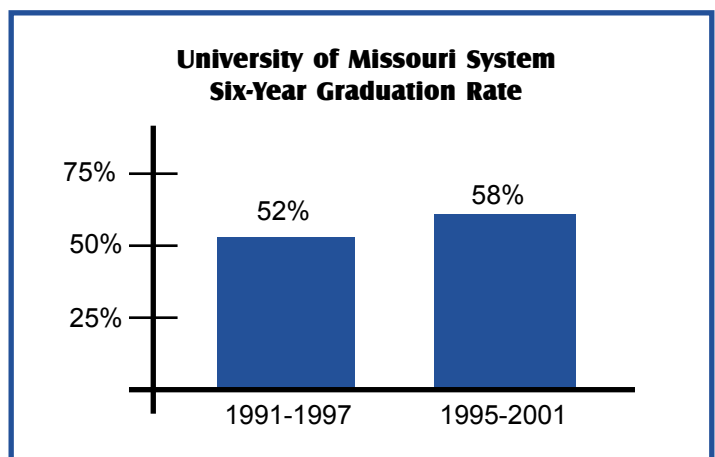
Truman also improved its freshman success rate by creating the Extended Freshman Course and Residential Colleges Program to help freshmen make the transition to college.



Last year, Truman met the rigorous standards necessary to become the fourth university in the state to have a Phi Beta Kappa chapter.

University of Missouri

The University of Missouri enhanced its research programs through the addition of new faculty and research facilities. The university also leveraged the state's \$4 million investment to raise more than \$80 million to



See **MISSION ENHANCEMENT RESULTS**, page 6

UMKC, Metropolitan Community Colleges establish transfer agreements

University of Missouri-Kansas City Chancellor Martha Gilliland and Metropolitan Community Colleges Chancellor Wayne Giles signed a number of agreements in February that allow MCC students to transfer to UMKC without losing any of the credit hours earned toward their associate degrees. The agreements also ensure that transfer students will

graduate with baccalaureate degrees on the same schedule as UMKC freshmen.

The 2+2 agreements impact 47 degree programs across the UMKC campus and demonstrate a progressive level of cooperation between higher education institutions. 🍷

MISSION ENHANCEMENT RESULTS, from page 5

support 121 endowed chairs and professorships, 36 percent of which are in life sciences areas.

The University of Missouri improved its ranking in federal research spending among the public institutions in the Association of American Universities. The average percentage of growth in spending for the university exceeds the average for the public AAU institutions, and the University of Missouri ranks third among public AAU institutions for gain in market share of federal research expenditures between 1995 and 2000.

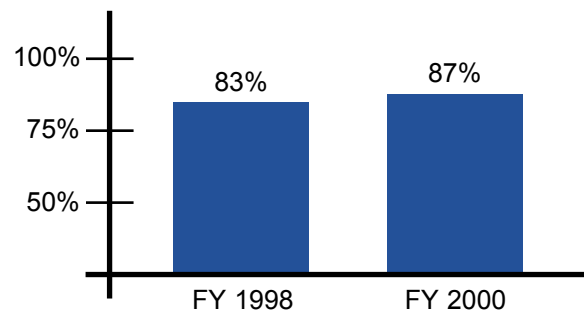
Federal Expenditures for Science and Engineering Research and Development

	FY 1995	FY 2000	Increase
Public AAU Institution Average	\$129,264	\$165,344	28%
University of Missouri System	\$45,600	\$87,234	91%

The success of University of Missouri freshmen improved, as did the percentage of students scoring above the 50th percentile on graduate program admission tests.

In addition, the university participates in nine

University of Missouri System Graduate Students Reporting Scores on a Graduate Admissions Test and Scoring Above the 50th Percentile



collaborative academic programs involving faculty from all four UM campuses and from other Missouri colleges and universities.

Next Steps

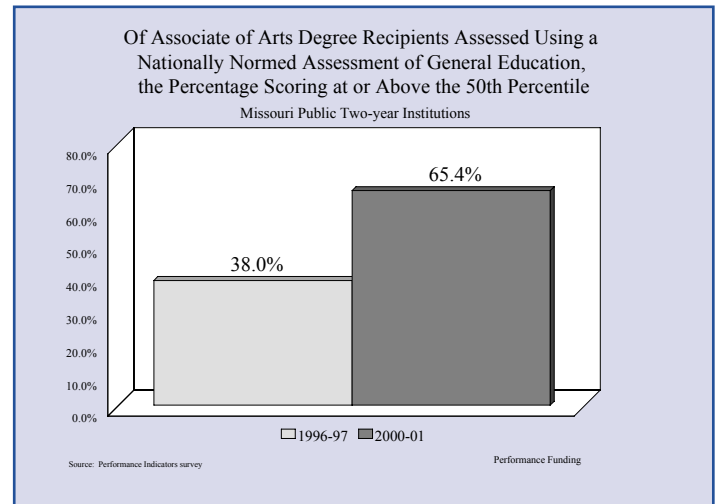
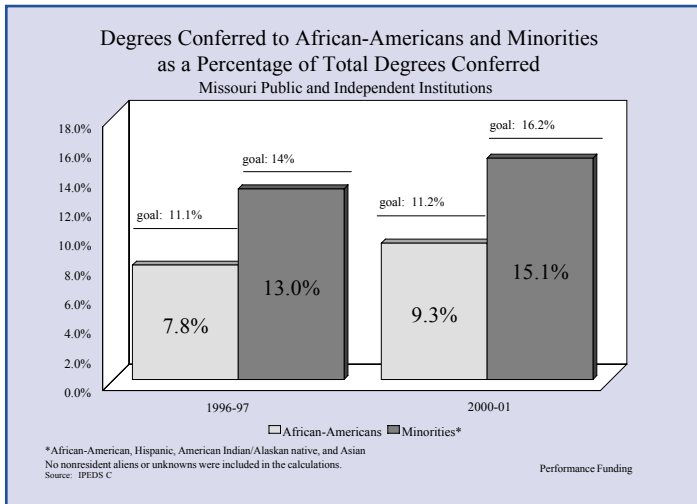
After reporting their respective mission enhancement results to the Coordinating Board, Harris-Stowe State College, Lincoln University, Truman State University and the University of Missouri are beginning the next cycle of mission review. Representatives of each of the four institutions will meet with Coordinating Board staff to review the institutions' mission enhancement progress, to discuss any new initiatives being considered and to set mission-related goals for the next five years.

The Coordinating Board is expected to identify mission-related accountability measures for each institution in June. 🍷

Freshman Success Rates

Percentage of Freshmen Completing 24 Hours with a GPA of 2.00 or Greater	Fall 1997	Fall 2000
UM-Columbia	87%	88%
UM-Kansas City	89%	90%
UM-Rolla	90%	92%
UM-St. Louis	76%	78%
UM System	87%	88%

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increased, as has the proportion of prospective teachers meeting the Coordinating Board's guidelines for entrance into and exit from the state's teacher education programs.

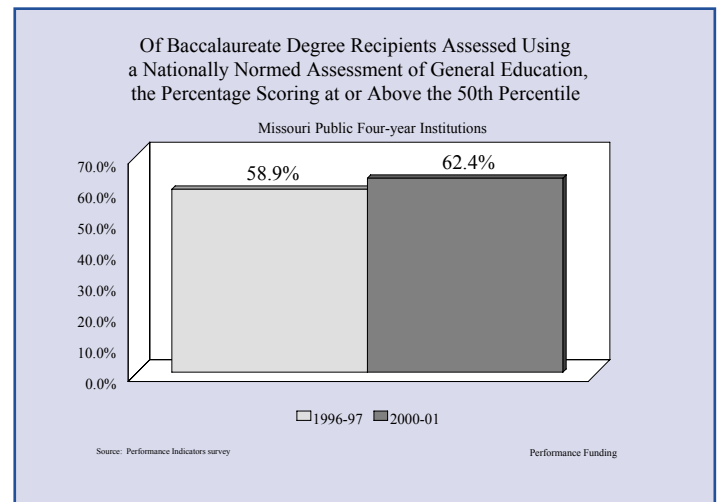
Between 1996-97 and 2000-01, the proportion of degree recipients who were assessed in general education using a nationally normed exam and scored at or above the 50th percentile increased from 38 percent to 65.4 percent at the associate degree level and from 58.9 percent to 62.4 percent at the baccalaureate degree level. The proportion of baccalaureate degree recipients who were assessed in the major field of study and scored at or above the 50th percentile increased from 53.6 percent in 1996-97 to 58.8 percent in 2000-01.

The Coordinating Board recommends that students admitted to teacher education programs score at least 265 on each part of the C-BASE exam and/or at the 66th percentile on the ACT. The proportion of prospective teachers meeting this guideline increased from 65 percent in 1996-97 to 75 percent in 2000-01. In addition, the board recommends that 80 percent of all teacher education graduates score at or above the 50th percentile on state-mandated national exit exams. Between 1996-97 and 2000-01, the proportion of teacher education graduates from the state's public institutions meeting this standard increased from 55 percent to 60 percent.

Affordability

Affordability remains a significant factor in accessing higher education. Students are bearing a higher proportion of the costs. The 2002 progress report shows that many low- and middle-income students still struggle to finance higher education.

In fact, even with funding increases for the state's



Charles Gallagher grant program, there were 24,000 students eligible for the program who didn't receive funding in 2000-01. Similarly, the Missouri College Guarantee Program had 9,000 eligible students who went unfunded in 2001-02.

More need-based student financial assistance is needed to ensure students with financial need have access to the state's system of higher education.

While the findings of the 2002 progress report demonstrate significant progress in certain areas, they also highlight challenges that remain. The report will provide a baseline of information as Missouri higher education builds on the accomplishments of recent years and pushes for further improvement to meet the future educational needs of Missourians under *The Coordinated Plan for Missouri Higher Education*.

The 2002 progress report is available online at www.cbhe.state.mo.us.

CBHE *Calendar*

CBHE and Presidential Advisory Committee Meetings

June 6, 2002
East Central College,
Union

CBHE and Presidential Advisory Committee Meetings

October 10, 2002
Harris-Stowe State College,
St. Louis

Governor's Conference on Higher Education and CBHE Meeting

December 5, 2002
Holiday Inn University Plaza Hotel,
Springfield

CBHE and Presidential Advisory Committee Meetings

February 6, 2003
Jefferson City

CBHE and Presidential Advisory Committee Meetings

April 10, 2003
Truman State University,
Kirksville

CBHE and Presidential Advisory Committee Meetings

June 5, 2003
William Jewell College,
Liberty

CBHE and Presidential Advisory Committee Meetings

October 9, 2003
Moberly Area Community College,
Moberly

Governor's Conference on Higher Education and CBHE Meeting

December 11, 2003
St. Louis

Note: The June 2002 Workshop for Trustees has been canceled.

CBHE *News*

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FIRST CLASS

CBHE News is published by the Missouri Department of Higher Education to inform Missouri's higher education community of Coordinating Board for Higher Education actions and higher education events. Copies are distributed to CBHE members, institutional governing boards and presidents, higher education associations, the Missouri General Assembly, Gov. Bob Holden and other interested Missouri citizens.

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